(d) whether Government have some schemes to cater to the housing needs of LIG and EWS sections;

(e) if so, the details of its performance;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) how does Government propose to cater to the housing needs of the LIG and EWS sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) As per the Report of the Working Group of the 11th Five Year Plan, the estimated shortage of Housing as on 2007 is 24.71 million. Out of this, shortage of Low Income Group and Economically Weaker Sections Housing is 2.89 and 21.78 million respectively. Fiscal concessions provided and other schemes of Government are targeted to benefit all sections of society in housing sector.

(d) to (g) The Government has launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) to assist cities and towns for taking up housing and infrastructural facilities at affordable costs for the slum dwellers/urban poor/Economically Weaker Sections/Low Income Group categories in 63 Mission cities in the country under sub-mission, Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP). For non-Mission cities for housing and slum upgradation the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) has been launched with the objective to strive for holistic slum development, with a healthy and enabling environment by providing adequate shelter and basic infrastructure facilities to the slum dwellers including the displaced.

Indian women working abroad

332. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian women working in foreign countries, country-wise and since when;

(b) whether Government propose to conduct a study regarding their present condition particularly financial and social; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when it is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) On the total migrant population of 191 million in the world today, it is estimated that about 49% are women. While precise data on the number of Indian women working abroad is not available, it is estimated that about 44% of migrants from southern part of Asia are women.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Dual passports to NRIs

333. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have put the much-publicized scheme of issuance of dual passports to NRIs on back-burner;

(b) if so, in what manner the envisaged benefits emerging from dual Passports to NRIs would now be achieved so as to involve them in Nation's developmental activities more vigorously through their vast resources and expertise; and

(c) the general consensus amongst NRIs and their Federations, etc. about the inordinate delay in implementing this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) There has been no proposal to issue dual passports to NRIs under consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Investment by NRIs

234. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister has urged the NRIs/PIOs at Pravasi Bhartiya Divas to invest in India;

(b) if so, the reasons due to which PIO's have not been allowed to invest upto 100% in aviation sector including domestic airlines;